



NTSB National Transportation Safety Board

Office of Aviation Safety



Air Traffic Control

Hilton (Pete) W. Hall, Jr.
ATC Group Chairman

Controller Responsibilities

- Provide to the flight crew
 - NOTAM
 - Taxi clearance
 - Takeoff clearance
- Monitor aircraft

NOTAM Information

- Automatic Terminal Information Service (ATIS)
 - Current weather
 - NOTAM information, such as taxiway closures
- NOTAM omitted from broadcast
- Controller did not provide information to the flight crew

Controller's Taxi Clearance

- Instructed flight crew to runway 22
- Clearance to cross intermediate runways, such as runway 22, not required
- Pilot responded, “taxi two two”

Safety Recommendations

- A-00-67 and A-00-68
 - Require air traffic controllers to issue explicit runway crossing instructions
- Current status: Open – Unacceptable Response
- No FAA action at the time of the accident

Controller's Takeoff Clearance

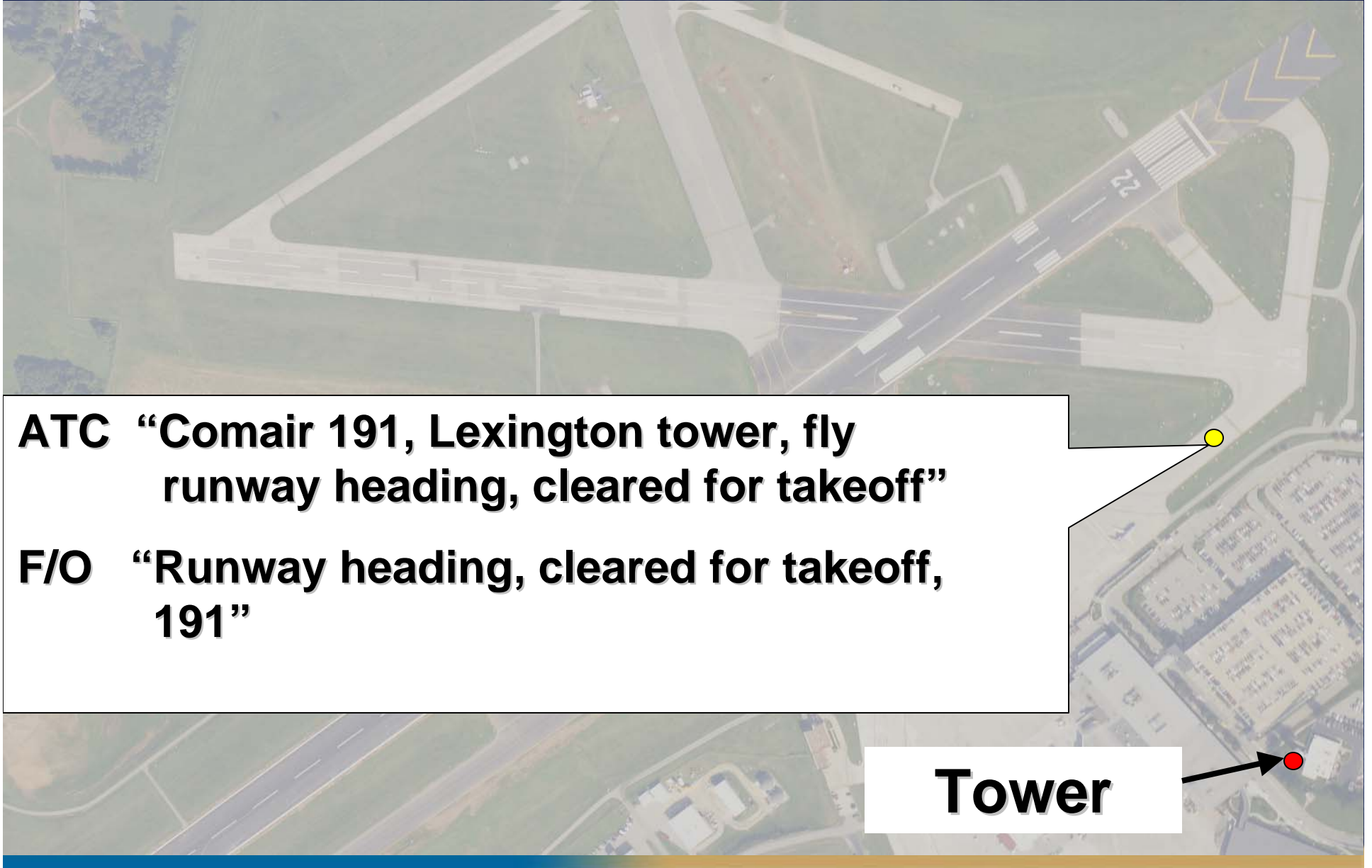
- Controllers required to issue takeoff clearances and resolve potential conflicts
- No other aircraft were present
- Issued takeoff clearance
 - Scanned runway 22
 - Checked radar display for traffic

Takeoff Clearance

**ATC “Comair 191, Lexington tower, fly
runway heading, cleared for takeoff”**

**F/O “Runway heading, cleared for takeoff,
191”**

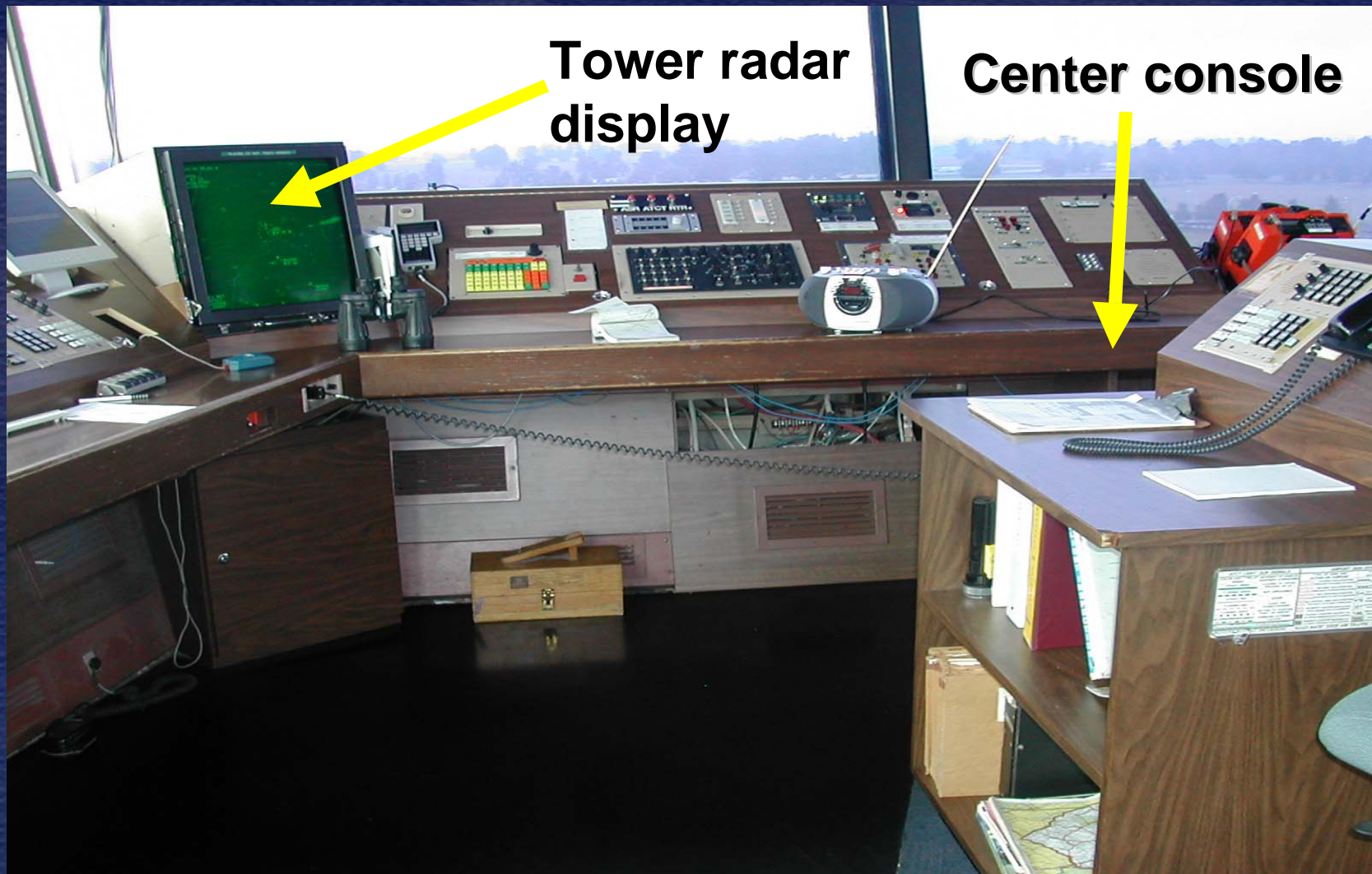
Tower



Actions After Takeoff Clearance

- Performed radar function for previous flight
- Controller responsible for Comair flight radar services
- Began administrative task

Tower Radar Display and Console



NTSB



Actions After Takeoff Clearance

- FAA's first priority: separating aircraft and issuing safety alerts
- Use good judgment in prioritizing other tasks
- Administrative task not critical to flight safety

Tower and Radar Functions

- Controller responsible for both functions
- Contrary to FAA policy
- No radar functions interfered with tower tasks for Comair 5191



NTSB